



Chairperson: Leslie Abasta-Cummings

Director: Erick Serrato

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Merced County Workforce Development Board Meeting Thursday, March 27, 2025; 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Merced College, Raj Kahlon Agriculture and Industrial Technology Complex – Room 131
3600 M Street
Merced, CA 95340

No virtual option available

Follow signs for parking and meeting location Area P4 no need for parking pass

Ag/IT tour will occur directly after meeting Adjournment

Lunch provided 11:45am

Public Comment: If you wish to speak on a matter that does NOT appear on the agenda, you may do so during the Public Opportunity to speak. Please state your name and address for the record. Each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes.

Agenda Items: Public opportunity to speak on items on the Workforce Development Board WDB Agenda will be heard following announcement of each section or subsection of the Agenda. In order that interested individuals have an opportunity to speak, any person addressing the WDB will be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes per section or subsection of the Agenda.

Agendas and Minutes: All supporting documentation is available for public review at 1900 Airdrome Entry, Atwater, CA 95301 or visit our website at www.worknetmerced.com during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. (Except holidays). Any material related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the WDB, after distribution of the Agenda packet, is available for public inspection at 1900 Airdrome Entry, Atwater, CA 95301.

Reasonable Accommodations: Persons, who require accommodation for disability in order to review an agenda, or to participate in a meeting of the WDB per the American Disabilities Act (ADA), may obtain assistance by requesting such accommodation in writing addressed to Merced County Workforce Development Board Admin Office or telephonically calling (209) 724-2000 or Erick Serrato (209) 724-2041. Any such request for accommodation should be made at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which assistance is requested.

Committee Quorum and Action: A Quorum of the WDB shall consist of eleven (11) members. Actions by the committee shall require a majority vote (11 votes or more) of the total membership of the Committee. When there is no Quorum present at the scheduled start time of the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and agenda items will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

All regular WDB meetings are held in-person quarterly on one Thursday of the month at 11:45 a.m. and locations hosted at Industry/Employer/Training sites throughout the County.

Agenda		
1. Call to Order	Roll Call of Members of the Board	Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Chair Patricia Hinson, Board Secretary
2. Public Opportunity	Public opportunity to speak on any matter of public interest within the Board's jurisdiction, including items on the Board's agenda.	Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Chair
3. Host Welcome Statement	Overview of Merced College AgTEC Program -Cody Jacobsen	Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Chair
4. Approval of Minutes	Approval of WDB Meeting Minutes from Dec 11, 2024.	Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Chair
5. Open Announcements	Updates and announcements from members of the Workforce Board.	Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Chair
6. Chair Comments	Comments from the Chair of Merced County Workforce Development Board.	Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Chair
7. Director's Comments	Synopsis of Meeting Agenda, comment on non-Agenda items, legislative updates, and other areas of interest.	Erick Serrato, Director
Workforce System		
8. Local and Regional Plan	<p>Presentation of the Merced County Local Plan and the Regional Plan for the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Unit. Both plans are currently in draft form and available for public comment and review through April 21, 2025.</p> <p>Action Item: Provide authorization for the Board Chair to approve and sign Final Draft of Local Plan and Regional Plan, and submit to the State by April 28, 2025.</p>	Erick Serrato, Director
9. Legislative Update	A review of current funding and legislative updates concerning the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and its successor Act, the America's Stronger Workforce Act (ASWA). Discussion of potential impacts in the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year and current scenario planning.	Erick Serrato, Director
Industry & Labor Market		
10. California Economic Blueprint, RII Investment Projects	Presentation of the California Economic Blueprint and economic sectors of focus. Funding requests to the RII Implementation Fund from North San Joaquin Valley (Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin) partners.	Erick Serrato, Director

	Adult and Youth Career Services	
11. WIOA Youth/Adult Enrollment	Presentation of plans to better clarify WIOA services offered to young jobseekers, ages 16-24, and referral and routing systems to better meet these jobseekers' needs.	Valente Huitron, Staff Erick Serrato, Director
12. AJCC Facility Planning	Update on America's Job Centers of California service footprint in Merced County, including the following public opening events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Worknet Los Banos Campus – May 7, 2025 ▪ Worknet Castle Commerce Center – May 21, 2025; ▪ Worknet @ Breaking Barriers – June 11, 2025; ▪ Worknet AJCC – November 19, 2025. 	Erick Serrato, Director Stacie Tury, Staff
	Other Items for Discussion	
13. Bylaw Review	Review of proposed revisions to the Merced County Workforce Development Board Bylaws, for discussion, including: (a) Executive Committee Composition; (b) Officer Roles; (c) representative education Board seat; (d) sector-specific Board membership. For consideration of approval at the June 26, 2025 Board Meeting.	Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Chair
14. Board Member Resignations and Nomination, Recruitment Efforts	Acceptance of the Resignations of Jeff Segars and Mike Altomare, Business Representatives. Nomination of Steve Stevenson to the Merced County Workforce Development Board, representing the required joint labor-management, or union affiliated, registered apprenticeship program operating in Merced County. Nominations are advanced to the Merced County Board of Supervisors. Discussion regarding current recruitment efforts by the Executive Committee. Action Item: Vote to accept the resignations of Jeff Segars and Mike Altomare, Business Representatives. Vote to approve Nomination of Steve Stevenson to the Merced County Workforce Development Board.	Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Chair
15. Adjournment	Adjourning of the Workforce Development Board Meeting.	Chair – Abasta-Cummings

Optional: Tour of Ag/IT building following the meeting.